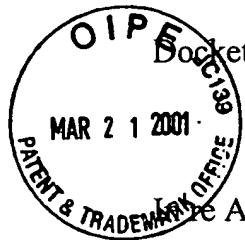


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PATENT
Kawell



Docket No.: 041-1790E

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Takayuki SUGAHARA

Serial No. 09/469,499

: Prior Group Art Unit: 2713

CPA of application filed: 22 December 1999

: Prior Examiner Y. Lee

For: REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING
USER MODIFIABLE PROTECTION OF DATA REPRODUCTION (as
amended)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

MAR 23 2001

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above identified continued prosecution
application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 23-27, and rewrite the remaining claims as follows.

Clean Copy of Rewritten Claims

K1 Sub F1
18 (Twice Amended). A reproduction apparatus providing reproduction protection, for operating on main data which are conveyed by a data medium, the apparatus comprising:

means for detecting medium protection data which are also conveyed by
5 said data medium;